

Commander praises Air Force people

As we prepare to celebrate our Air Forces 52nd birthday, it is important to stop and remember what makes our service so strong. Our heritage is rich and predates our separation from the Army ... but that is not what makes us strong. Our mission is vital to defend our nation, our friends, and allies from aggression ... but that is what we do, not why we are strong. We are blessed with the finest high-technology equipment ... but they are only our tools, not our strength.

Look in the mirror and you will see our most treasured asset — our link with America — the absolute core of why we succeed! People with heart, soul and dedication are our strength.

This Saturday, Sept. 18, we will celebrate 52 years as a separate service. It is but one day in the continuing process of "performing our mission." However, it is a special day to remember every airman who has led us to this point and for us to remember it is our own leadership that takes America's Air Force into the future.

Happy Birthday!

Lt. Gen. Paul V. Hester
U.S. Forces Japan
and 5th Air Force Commander

Going to the ball?

Now's the time to buy tickets, prepare uniform

Tickets are still available for the Air Force Ball, but expect tickets to the the annual event to be a sold out soon. And, since the dress is formal, for the procrastinators, there are still mess dress and semi-formal uniforms available at the Kadena Military Clothing Sales Store.

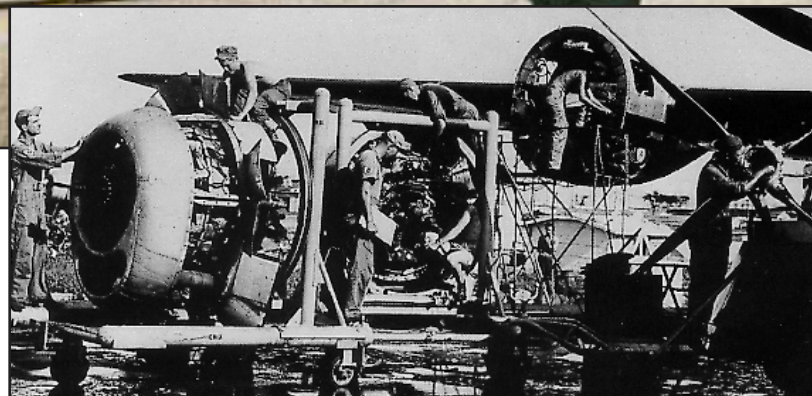
For those who want to attend the ball decked out in a mess dress uniform, count on paying about \$300. For those who just want to update their service dress uniforms, it'll cost about \$140. If you choose to wear your service dress uniform, remember to wear a white shirt and bow tie.

The ball begins at 5:30 p.m., Sept. 25, in the Kadena NCO Club. If you still haven't purchased your tickets by Monday, you must call Tech. Sgt. Vivian Spruill, 634-8977, or Master Sgt. Patrick Ross, 634-1148. Anyone who would like to help prepare the club should contact Tech. Sgt. Kevin Monkman at 634-5685.



File photos

ABOVE: 1st Lt. Greg Hopkins, a Kadena F-15 pilot with the 67th Fighter Squadron, performs a pre-flight check of his aircraft prior to a mission. **RIGHT:** A Kadena maintenance crew works on the base's muddy flight line in 1946.



Celebrating the past, preparing for the future

By Staff Sgt. Orville Desjarlais
Kadena Shogun editor

Tomorrow, the Air Force celebrates its 52nd year as a separate service. On Sept. 25, Kadena will observe the Air Force's birthday and reflect upon its cooperative interaction with its host nation during a formal Air Force Ball.

"Forward into the Millenium: Partners in Peace" is a theme "which reflects the cooperative efforts between the Okinawans and Ameri-

cans, as well as looks toward the future," said Capt. Rob Williams, Air Force Ball chairman.

"This Air Force Ball will be like no other," promises Williams. "Everyone can expect to have a good time, as well as a few surprises."

The gala event is centered around the birth of the Air Force on Sept. 18, 1947, two years after Kadena Air Base was established, April 1945. To look forward into Kadena's future, one must learn of its past.

Fighters and medium bombers

were the first U.S. aircraft to use the base. Also, the Japanese forces in the Ryukyu Islands formally surrendered to Gen Joseph W. Stilwell on Sept. 7, 1945, at what is now called the Peace Park in the Stearley Heights housing area.

After the Air Force became a separate branch of service, Kadena was also used during the Korean War and in November, 1954, the 18th Fighter Bomber Wing, now the 18th Wing, moved to Kadena.

Ball, continued on Page 3

100,000 have chance to speak their minds by filling out DOD quality-of-life surveys

By Linda D. Kozaryn
American Forces
Press Service

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — Want to tell the Pentagon brass what you think of military life? You may just get the chance to speak your mind.

Defense officials began mailing quality-of-life surveys Sept. 13 to nearly 100,000 people throughout the military.

About 60,000 randomly-selected service members and 36,000 spouses will get to voice their opinion on everything from personnel tempo to child care. Defense Manpower Data Center officials are mailing questionnaires to individuals' home addresses.

The voluntary survey gives troops and family members a chance to make a difference, according to Gail McGinn, the Pentagon's principal director for personnel support, families and education.

Want to learn concerns

"We want to know what their concerns are and what things we need to work on so we can communicate that to the military leadership and to the Congress," she said.

Compensation, education and spouse employment are areas DOD officials here have been trying to address with policy and program changes, McGinn said.

Defense Secretary William S. Cohen, Deputy Secretary John J. Hamre, service chiefs, commanders, state representatives and senators

— even the president — will be interested in hearing what the troops and spouses have to say, McGinn emphasized.

Preliminary results will be available by spring, and all of the survey data is slated to be posted by summer on a DOD Internet Web site.

Overall, she said, survey results will affect military life for years to come. Defense officials will use the data to construct quality of life policies, programs and services. They'll cite the results when seeking congressional support for such initiatives as higher pay and better benefits. Service member and family concerns will be reflected in decisions affecting the way the military does business.

Take surveys quickly

"What we'd really like is for people to fill out the survey as soon as they get it," she said. "We think it will take about 30 minutes. That's a long period of time for people to take out of their day, but this is a very important survey — this is a big deal. This is the definitive DOD survey of all service members from all services and families."

Individual troop and spouse responses to the questions remain confidential. Names are not required on the questionnaire.

"We never use any identifying information on individuals," McGinn said.

DOD conducts a quality-of-life survey every seven years. This will be the first since the drawdown reduced the size and makeup of the armed forces.

"We need to know the repercussions and how we can (improve) personnel tempo for people," she said. "Financial management is also a very big issue. Our people are put under extraordinary circumstances when they're young and they have to move to a new place. Moving is expensive. We're looking into that, too."

Since quality of life plays a major role in recruiting and retaining personnel, DOD officials are extremely interested in what service members and their spouses have to say.

The 1992 quality of life survey resulted in DOD-wide initiatives, according to McGinn. When the department was reviewing programs for savings during downsizing, for example, officials were able to shield the military commissary system in part because of survey data showing the stores to be the most-used and most-valued benefit by both married and single members, she said.

More fitness centers

Because of 1992 survey responses, DOD officials also focused on the need for more and better physical fitness facilities, she said. The results even affected military community libraries.

"We had heard that some installations had started closing libraries," she continued. "As we looked into the survey data, we saw libraries always among the top three most popular morale, welfare and recreation programs. This information got the Congress' attention, and they asked us to put a moratorium on the closure of libraries."

Kadena resident wins World Series trip

Kadena resident Harvey Robinson, and Army Corp of Engineers employee, recently won a trip for two to a World Series game by participating in a Headquarters Pacific Air Forces summer promotion, Step Up to the Plate with P A C A F



Harvey Robinson

Clubs, which ran Aug. 1-31. New to the island, Robinson became a club member when he moved to Kadena just five months ago. "I owe it all to the club," says Robinson, who filled out his game piece during the Officers' Club August Membership Appreciation Night.

"My gut reaction was that I wouldn't win," says Robinson. "My history is not that good. I won a coffee table 48 years ago. I don't consider myself a lucky person." Then came the call that he had won.

"My first reaction was 'Okay, what's the catch?' In the states we get calls from marketers all the time who tell you that you won something," says Robinson. Robinson stated that it took a bit of convincing before he realized that he had actually won. Robinson's trip for two will consist of airfare, hotel accommodations, a rental car and reserved seating at one of the World Series games. The World Series is expected to take place the last week of October or first week of November.

Hispanic Heritage schedule of events

The Hispanic Heritage Month Committee has come up with a variety of activities to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month — Sept. 15 through Oct. 15. For more information about these events, contact Eddie Gamboa at 645-9603 or Alfredo Soto at 646-6076.

Saturday: Family Fun Day at the Camp Lester picnic grounds from noon to 5 p.m. featuring Ballet Folklorico, Hispanic American Association Dancers, DJ music and pinatas and a bouncing house for the children.

Sunday: Spanish Catholic Mass at Camp Lester Chapel from 5-6 p.m.

Sept. 25: Cultural Awareness Fest at the Kadena Schilling Community Activities Center from noon to 5 p.m. with authentic Hispanic food by the HAA, music and much more.

Sept. 25: Latin Jam at the Kinser Trimod from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. It will be an evening of Hispanic spice with Salsa, Merengue, Cumbia, Rancheras, Tex-Mex and more.

Oct. 6: Luncheon from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Torii Station's Coral Cove Restaurant. Entertainment includes the Hispanic Dancers. For more information, call 644-4730/5306.

Oct. 15: Hispanic Heritage Month closes with a semi-formal dinner banquet and dance at the Butler Officers Club from 5:30 p.m. to midnight. Tickets cost \$25.



Photo by Senior Airman Susan Adams

Self-help patios

Second Lt. Fernando Galvan, left, and Tech. Sgt. Kevin Webster, 67th Fighter Squadron, build a patio for officers, while on the other side of the building, another patio is being built for enlisted troops. The patios will be used as outside break areas. The self-projects began around Labor Day. It's unknown when they'll be finished.

BRIEFS

POW/MIA observances planned

• A **POW/MIA Day ceremony** is planned for 3:30 p.m., Sept. 24, at the base flag pole located in front of Building 10, 18th Wing headquarters.

Brig. Gen. James B. Smith, 18th Wing commander, and Col. (retired) John C. Wright will speak. Wright, a former 67th Tactical Fighter Squadron commander, flew combat missions in both the Korean and Vietnam conflicts.

In the case of inclement weather, the ceremony will take place in Chapel 1. Attendees are asked to park in the Chapel 1 parking lot where a bus will shuttle people to the base flag pole starting at 3 p.m.

For more information, call Master Sgt. Dan Wheaton at 634-0144/3801.

• A **POW/MIA breakfast** takes place at 7:30 a.m., Sept. 28, in the Rocker NCO Club. It's open to all branches of the service, retirees and civilian personnel.

For more information, call Master Sgt. Rita Green at 634-3547 or Master Sgt. Newlin Carter at 634-3870.

Holiday greetings start Wednesday

The Army and Air Force Hometown News holiday greetings television crew is scheduled to visit Kadena Wednesday and Thursday.

This team will videotape service members' holiday greetings at Kadena's picturesque Marek Park, Pavilion 1, for broadcast on hometown stations during the holiday season.

The taping sessions are scheduled as follows:

Air Force: Wednesday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Thursday from 8 a.m. to noon

Army: Thursday from noon to 4 p.m.

Air Force members wishing to participate should call Staff Sgt. Keith Tuten at 634-1509.

AAFES can recycle motor oil

The Army and Air Force Exchange Service gas station on Kadena is now accepting used motor oil free of charge.

After changing the oil in your car or lawnmower, that oil can be reused.

The service is open to all military members and Department of Defense employees.

To drop off used oil, bring the oil to the AAFES auto shop between 7 a.m. and 6 p.m., Monday through Saturday, except holidays.

BALL continued from Page 1

The wing's first aircraft were two squadrons of F-86 Sabrejets.

The 313th Air Division, the predecessor to the 18th Wing, began operations on Kadena in March, 1955, and was inactivated Sept. 30, 1991.

People and aircraft from the base supported efforts in Vietnam and in the early 1970s, began operating the F-15 Eagle on Oct. 1, 1991.

Many Kadena units participated in Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm, helped victims at Clark Air Base due to the eruption of Mt. Pinatubo in the Republic of the Philippines, and pitched in during relief efforts in Bangladesh.

Presently, Kadena and the 18th Wing have five groups and more than 20 squadrons. The base operates E-3s, HH-60s, KC-135x and F-15s. There are also many tenant units that help make up the entire Kadena Team.

AAFES beauticians plan training for African-American hair care



Photo by Senior Airman Jennifer Dixon

Kathy Hansen, Army and Air Force Exchange beautician, applies a relaxer to the hair of Petty Officer 2nd Class Alison Burden, 3rd Dental Battalion, Camp Courtney. AAFES beauticians will soon receive training on African-American women's hair care.

By Tech. Sgt. Ken Mattingly
AAFES Public Affairs

CAMP LESTER, Okinawa, Japan - Army and Air Force Exchange Service officials have launched a training plan aimed at the beautician shops throughout the region to improve hair care for African-American women.

Service representatives from Dudley's, a leading multi-cultural haircare company from the United States, are educating AAFES-contracted beauticians on Kadena during two-day courses Wednesday and Thursday.

Participants are being taught proper relaxer application, hair analysis, product knowledge and shown various new hairstyles.

"Training will have an immediate effect and improve hair-care services at all PACRIM beauty salons," said Cliff Choy, AAFES PACRIM services business manager.

Improvement in service is not limited to training. Dudley's maintenance products will soon be available to customers for purchase through authorized beauty salons.

Kadena beauty salons are looking for African-American women to use as models during the training. All models will receive free hair care.

If interested, call the AAFES services manager at 645-7712/8039.

Participants in the program must fill out a form verifying that the oil is not contaminated with antifreeze, paint, solvents, chlorine or pesticides.

All oil must be signed in before it can be dropped off.

For more information, call 633-0416.

Blood drive takes place Monday

A blood drive is slated from 8 a.m. to noon, Monday, in the Kadena Medical Clinic.

The 18th Medical Group spouses are encouraging family members to donate. It's being held on the third floor conference room. For more information, call Pete Petty at 633-5456.

IEE and GSA stores close

The Individual Equipment Element and General Service Administration Stores will close Monday through Oct. 1 due to end-of-year close-out.

During that time, only emergency-purchases will be authorized after preapproval by the funds management office.

For more information, call 634-2224/5572.

Local Conditions Course moves

The Local Conditions Course is no longer being held in the Wing Safety Office training classroom.

It's being integrated with the Newcomer's Orientation currently held at 7:30 a.m. every Monday in the Schilling Community Activities Center. The course is a prerequisite for operating a privately-owned vehicle on Okinawa. For more information, call 634-4172.

Eagle Hardware accepts donations

Eagle Hardware is accepting donations of clothes, dishes, toys and more for a unity work rehabilitation facility for mentally ill adults. A collection box will be in Eagle Hardware until Oct. 22.

For more information, call 632-8877.

Camp Courtney power outage Sept. 28

The Okinawa Electric Power Company has scheduled a power outage for the Camp Courtney housing area, all 54000 buildings, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Sept. 28. For more information, call 634-0803.

Chili chefs needed

The Chief's Chili Cook-off committee is accepting reservations from units wanting to participate in this year's annual event, Oct. 16, at the Kadena NCO Club.

Also scheduled is a 5-kilometer run. Entry forms are available at Postal Service Center 80, the Kadena USO, and the Schilling Community Activities Center.

For more information, call Chief Master Sergeants Ron Holmes, 634-9802, Roger Noyes, 634-4291, Alex Szumanski, 634-7388, Bart Richardson, 634-2139, or MCPO Ron Wagenhals, 634-8237.

Volunteers needed

Volunteers are needed for an upcoming Red Cross Christmas Bazaar scheduled Nov. 13 and 14 at the Risner Fitness Center. Volunteers will help set up booths, and serve as cashiers, door guards, security and supervisors. To volunteer, call the Kadena American Red Cross at 634-1979/1294.

Air Force separates F-22 facts from myths

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — As the fate of the F-22 Raptor continues to be debated on Capitol Hill and in the press, it's increasingly important to separate fact from myth.

The following facts clarify America's need for the F-22 as the premier fighter of the 21st century Air Force:

Myth: Delaying initial F-22 procurement will not really impact the overall program.

Fact: The House vote withdrawing \$1.8 billion in procurement funds for the F-22 in fiscal 2000 potentially sounds a death knell for the Raptor, the cornerstone of the nation's global air dominance in the 21st century. Even if the program survives this setback (which will be determined in a House-Senate conference committee this month), terminating current production will ultimately increase overall costs by \$6.5 billion, causing the program to exceed congressionally mandated cost caps.

Myth: The Air Force doesn't really need the F-22 to maintain air superiority in the 21st century.

Fact: The F-22 is integral to the Air Force's tactical aircraft modernization program and the key to dominating the skies in 2010 and beyond. By the time the F-22 comes online, the F-15 (today's premier

fighter) will be more than 25 years old. Without the F-22, the Air Force will steadily lose its edge in air superiority in the 21st century. By 2005, flying the F-15 into combat will be the equivalent of driving a 20-year-old car in the Indianapolis 500.

Myth: Other countries don't have the technology to compete with the F-15's defense and strike capability, so there is no reason to improve on it.

Fact: America's best fighter, the F-15, is on par with current Russian fighters, and behind Europe's and Russia's newest class of fighters set to roll off production lines by 2005. These include the French Rafale, Europe's Eurofighter and the Russian SU-35. The F-22's capabilities are critical to maintaining air superiority.

Myth: The F-22 doesn't bring anything to the fight the F-15 isn't already providing.

Fact: To maintain the levels of air superiority and dominance provided by the F-15 today, we will need the F-22's capabilities of speed, supercruise, maneuverability at supersonic speeds, stealth and integrated avionics to allow our pilots to identify and defeat threats. It also will give our air warriors a capability they've never before had: First look, first shot, first kill. Additionally, the F-15 does not provide any air-to-ground capability; the F-22 will provide first-day, near-precision, air-to-ground capability with the Joint Direct Attack Munition.

Myth: The F-15 will still be able to provide an adequate defense and effective strike force 15 years from now.

Fact: The F-15 is expected to provide an adequate defense and effective strike force for the next five to 10 years (when the F-22 is scheduled to become operational); but not 15. Without the F-22, we won't have the capability to counter the threat



U.S. Air Force file photos

because we won't have the speed or stealth — dramatically decreasing our chances of survival.

Myth: The Air Force's insistence on the F-22 is part of an obsolete, Cold War mentality because future conflicts will be low intensity and not require the same high-tech equipment we needed for the Cold War.

Fact: Low-intensity conflicts are not necessarily low technology. The threat includes not only advanced fighter aircraft, but also increasingly lethal surface-to-air missiles. The number of countries possessing the most advanced SAMs is expected to increase from 14 to 21 by 2005 — an increase that will overwhelm our current fighter force's ability to gain air superiority.

Myth: The F-22 is cost-prohibitive and not worth the return on investment.

Fact: With an average aircraft "sticker price" (fly-away cost) of less than \$85 million, the F-22 will cost less than 1 percent of the Depart-



ment of Defense budget during its production period. In its most costly year, 2003, the F-22 will consume less than 5.6 percent of the Air Force budget; 1.7 percent of the defense budget and 0.25 percent of the total federal budget.

Myth: Air superiority is a "nice to have" that has to be weighed against budget constraints.

Fact: Owning the sky is worth the cost. For less than 1 percent of the DOD budget, the F-22 will enable all of America's air, land and sea forces to operate effectively and free from enemy air attack. Thanks to air superiority, no airman, soldier, sailor or Marine has lost his or her life to enemy aircraft in the last 40 years.

909th Air Refueling Squadron

Lineage: It was constituted the 19th Reconnaissance Squadron, Heavy, on Jan. 28, 1942, with an activation date of March 1, 1942. It was redesignated the 409th Bombardment Squadron, Heavy, on April 22, 1942; the 409th Bombardment Squadron, Heavy, on March 2, 1944. It was inactivated on July 6, 1945. It was then redesignated the 409th Bombardment Squadron, Very Heavy, on Aug. 5, 1945, with an activation date of Aug. 20, 1945. Again, it was inactivated on Oct. 1, 1946. On Sept. 19, 1985, it consolidated with the 909th Air Refueling Squadron, Heavy, which was constituted and activated on Jan. 18, 1963. It organized on April 1, 1963. It was redesignated the 909th Air Refueling Squadron on Oct. 1, 1991.

(B)Aircraft: B-24, 1942-1945; B-29, 1945-1946; KC-135, 1963 to present.

(B)Emblem significance: Blue and yellow are the Air Force colors. Blue alludes to the sky and yellow the sun and the excellence required of Air Force personnel. The clouds denote the sky, the area where the unit's missions, as exemplified by the aircraft, is carried out. The lightning flashes reflect the unit member's spirits and abilities. The double star symbolizes the interdependence existing between the refueling aircraft and the aircraft being refueled. It also alludes to the scientific and technological knowledge necessary for mission completion. It was approved on Feb. 16, 1943.



F-22 meets fourth of five 1999 DOD flight-test criteria

WRIGHT-PATTERSON, AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio (AFPN) — The Air Force's new air superiority fighter, the F-22 Raptor, flew in excess of 60 degrees angle of attack during flight testing Aug. 25, at Edwards Air Force Base, Calif., reaching another milestone and satisfying another flight-test requirement mandated by the Department of Defense.

The milestone, combined with extensive, high angle-of-attack maneuvering, completed the fourth of five flight-test criteria established by DOD and the Air Force for 1999.

The flight-test criteria, along with other program requirements, must be completed successfully to demonstrate to defense department officials that the F-22 is ready for Low Rate Initial Production.

"We've met the requirement to demonstrate high angle of attack

post-stall flight with thrust vectoring for the Defense Acquisition Board's program review later this year," said Brig. Gen. Michael Mushala, F-22 program director. "With only one more '99 flight-test requirement to meet, I'm confident that our team will rise to the challenge."

Mushala heads the F-22 System Program Office, which manages development of the Raptor here at Aeronautical Systems Center.

Flight-test criteria already met this year includes: flying at an altitude of 50,000 feet; opening side and main weapons bay doors in flight; and supercruise — flying at 1.5 Mach or greater without afterburner.

A fifth requirement, flight in specific, high-speed regions of the F-22's envelop, is expected to be completed in December.



353rd MXS members help Korean flood victims

By Staff Sgt. Keith Houin
353rd Special Operations Group
Public Affairs

When recent flooding in Korea spelled disaster for countless military members and local civilians, 353rd Maintenance Squadron members pulled hundreds of pounds of clothing from their on-going collection drive, packed it in boxes, and shipped it out.

According to Master Sgt. Michael Saraceno, 353rd MXS inspections and safety office, he and Master Sgt. Victor Ambegia, 353rd MXS unit deployment manager, felt the flooding was a situation the unit could support and "the ball just started rolling."

Saraceno began the coordinating the shipment of more than two tons of clothing and Ambegia headed the sorting and packing efforts.

"We packed everything that would fully clothe an infant, child, teen or adult," said Ambegia. "A person could open the boxes naked and walk out with a full set of clothing right down to undergarments, shoes, a coat and even a hat."

This was the first time relief coordinator Rochelle Wheeler had ever seen such a quick response from an organization outside Korea. As the director of the Army Community Service Area I, Camp Casey, Tongduchon, Korea, Wheeler was a key player in the coordination and distribution of the relief items.

According to Ambegia, a response like this unfolds naturally in the squadron.

"You would be surprised at the response you get from the simplest request for help in this unit," Ambegia said.

The squadron also has store rooms full of

clothing, toys and other goods the unit has collected during the past year.

"We've had a clothing donation drive in place through our booster club with on-going relief efforts for more than two years," Ambegia said. "Donations come from individuals, base organizations, the thrift shop — anyone who has some excess to provide us."

As items are collected, members spend their free time sorting and preparing them for shipment or storage.

The squadron also has received help from other organizations on Kadena.

"So far we've had the NCO Academy and Airman Leadership School donate their time as class projects; the Kadena High School, Middle School and Elementary School were involved in the Honduras relief effort; the Kadena Reserve Officer Training Corps, the Civil Air Patrol, the Kadena Catholic Youth Organization and the Kadena Boy Scouts have all voluntarily helped us at one time or another on various special projects," Ambegia said. "We even have a civilian community group that comes in to pack and wrap items for delivery to the Philippines."

"These endeavors are genuine reflections of

Toys for Tots

The 353rd MXS members are already planning their next projects — Toys for Thailand Tots, a regular recipient of the unit's generosity, and assisting recently flooded areas in the Philippines. If anyone would like to help with either of these efforts or any future ones, contact Ambegia at 634-9353.



Courtesy Photo

Staff Sgt. Pete Villanueva and Master Sgt. Deb Proch, 353rd Special Operations Group, finalize the packing of relief supplies.

the generosity of the squadron members and others who have helped us," said Lt. Col. David Tye, 353rd MXS commander. "We are fortunate people and we recognize that. So, we want to give back to the global community. I think the number of efforts we support and the locations we have assisted reflect that. Though we have actually met some of the recipients, for the most part they see the boxes arrive and know someone cares."

Though Wheeler couldn't say how the donations would be used specifically, she did say the relief supplies would help both local civilians and U.S. families suffering from the flooding.



Squadron Spotlight

Good Samaritans

Three 12th Fighter Squadron members helped the Guam police apprehend a hit-and-run suspect while they were on temporary duty there. The suspect, a civilian truck driver, allegedly ran over a civilian pedestrian who was lying on a road off base. The 12th FS members, **Staff Sgts. Israel Mackey, Staff Sgt. Christopher Papa and Lonnie Beaver**, noted the truck's licence plate and called the police.

"The letter from the Guam Attorney General's office said they followed the vehicle that fled from the scene and got all the information to give to the cops," said Chief Master Sgt. Albert Kinman, 18th Operations Group. "The Attorney General stated that without such information, the suspect might have escaped responsibility."

The letter was signed by assistant Attorney General Johnny Gogo and extends the thanks and

appreciation from the people of Guam to the 12th FS members.

44th Fighter Squadron AVID Program award winner

The 1998/1999 44th Fighter Squadron and Kadena High School Advancement Via Individual Determination Program "Top Gun" award winner was **Cassandra White**.

She is the daughter of retired Master Sgt. Anthony and Sandra White. As the "Top Gun," she received a certificate and a \$500 savings bond for her outstanding academic record, extracurricular activities, community service and leadership potential.

Weapons load crew winners

The 12th Fighter Squadron's weapons load crew #15 won the 18th Operations Group Weapons Load Crew of the Month competition for August. The team consists of **Staff Sgt. Sabas Cavoza** and **Senior Airmen George Johnson and Brooks Hickmond**.

The 12th FS weapons load crew #5 won the 18th OG Weapons Load Crew of the Month competition for September. The team consists of **Staff**

Sgt. Brian Delano and Airmen 1st Class Michael Belandres and Jason Miller.

IDEA program winners

The following individuals have received cash awards for their submissions to the Innovative Development through Employee Awareness program:

Master Sgt. Mark Phillips, 18th Operations Group, won \$702; **Master Sgt. Stephen Amitrano**, 18th Security Forces Squadron, won \$200; **Master Sgt. Ricardo Chapa**, 18th Maintenance Squadron, won \$200; **Master Sgt. Kendall Haynes**, 18th Munitions Squadron, won \$200; **Tech. Sgt. Domenick Carani**, 18th OG, won \$200; **Tech. Sgt. Daniel Miller**, 18th MXS, won \$200; **Staff Sgt. Tony Barfield**, 18th MXS, won \$200; **Staff Sgt. Robert Marshall**, 18th MXS, won \$200; **Staff Sgt. Justin Moody**, 33rd Rescue Squadron, won \$200; **Staff Sgt. Donald Smith**, 353rd Special Operations Group, won \$200; **Senior Airman James Hurt**, 44th Fighter Squadron, won \$200; and **Senior Airman Brandon Kirkham**, 18th MXS, won \$200.

For more information about the Air Force IDEA program, contact the 18th Wing Manpower and Quality office at 632-7706.



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There are two milestones during the lives of most career enlisted members — the transition from airman to noncommissioned officer, and NCO to senior NCO. They are rites of passage.

The airman-to-NCO transition marks the first time airmen are elevated from their peers into the ranks of the noncommissioned officer corps.

They are no longer students of their trade. Like the apprentice blacksmiths of the past who earned their very own tools after years of learning their trade, junior NCOs earn another stripe that signifies increased responsibility and the legal authority commensurate with their rank and position under the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

The transition from NCO to senior NCO is somewhat the same, except at a much higher level. "Senior NCO induction ceremonies recognize and initiate those technical sergeants who are ready to put a foot on the Top Three ladder," said Master Sgt. Rick Rivard, 353rd Special Operations Group.

Now a Top Three

Master, senior, and chief master sergeants constitute the Top Three. By becoming a master sergeant, the E-7 is on the first rung of entering a very elite group — the top 3 percent of the Air Force as mandated by Congress — the ranks of senior and chief master sergeants.

Master sergeants function primarily in craftsman, supervisory, and management capacities and are being groomed for more advanced leadership positions. In other words, more is expected of them.

"I expect more from senior NCOs," said Chief Master Sgt. Karen Pickering, 18th Wing command chief master sergeant.

"I expect them to be able to make decisions more independently than they might have in the

past, to know what to funnel up the chain of command, and to know what to handle at their level. I look for senior NCOs to take on more responsibility. They're not followers any more. They shouldn't have to be encouraged to get involved."

You're the boss

As a new master sergeant select, Tech. Sgt. Ronney Moss agrees.

"Levels of responsibility change. A senior NCO is afforded more respect and authority due his rank. This allows more to be accomplished,

but also more damage to be done if you don't perform," Moss pointed out.

This means accepting responsibility.

"You are now in charge of your shop and you are accountable — no more doing something 'because the boss said so' — you are the boss," pointed out Rivard.

For 353rd Special Operations Group Command Chief Master Sergeant Robert Benbrooks, making the transition into the senior NCO ranks was like a splash of cold water on his face.

"I quickly realized my commander, chief, and superiors expected much more of me in the way of leadership. They looked to me as the leader and technical expert in my flight, and I suddenly realized I was expected to be accountable not only for myself but for all my subordinates," the chief said. "You must realize that you're no longer 'one of the guys.' You are now a leader, manager, and professional in every sense of the word," Benbrooks added.

So, just what exactly do leaders expect from their senior NCOs?

"I want leadership and commitment to the Air Force core values of integrity first, service before self, and excellence in all we do," said Col. Michael Byers, 353rd SOG commander.

"We ask a lot from our people, but even more from our senior NCO corps. Senior NCOs must maintain their technical expertise while assuming increasingly-demanding leadership roles."

Integrity first

Benbrooks said, "The term master sergeant denotes a person possessing special skills, trust and integrity. These traits are critical if we expect our superiors, officers, and commanders to entrust us with these high levels of responsibilities we desire."

For master sergeant selectees, the road to increased responsibility is a short one because once that sixth stripe is sewed on, they are looked upon in an entirely new light — one of authority, integrity, loyalty, dedication, devotion to duty and professionalism — in three words, a senior non-commissioned officer.

From technician to manager

By Staff Sgt. Orville Desjarlais
Kadena Shogun editor

Making the change to senior NCO



Okinawa Happenings

The following is a commonly used list of telephone numbers for this week's off duty activities:

Schilling Community Activities Center — 634-1387
Kadena Family Support Center — 634-3366
Kadena Information, Tickets and Tours — 634-4322
Kadena Arts and Crafts Center — 634-1666
Kadena Base Library — 634-1502
Kadena American Red Cross — 634-1979
Banyan Tree Club — 634-0644
Rocker NCO Club — 634-0740
Officer's Club — 632-6071
Busena Terrace Resort Hotel — 098-051-1333
Southeast Botanical Garden — 939-2555
Renaissance Hotel — 965-0707
Mitsukoshi Department Store — 869-4115
Bullfighting — 857-0185
Gushikawa Civic Art Theater — 978-4400
Prefectural Folk Theater — 866-2341



Brian Setzer Orchestra
Live in concert Nov. 7 at the Ginowan Amphitheater. Gates open 5:30 p.m., show starts at 6:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$40/¥4,500 in advance, \$50/¥5,500 at the door. Ticket sales begin Saturday and are available at Kadena ITT, Marine Corps Community Services ITT, Camp Foster's ACTV and the Bookbox in Hamby, Nakiminato and Agena.

Off-Base

Exhibitions

Through Sept. 26: *Okinawan Butterfly exhibit* — Ocean Expo Park Tropical Dream Center — 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. — 20 specimen found only on Okinawa presented by pictures and narratives — 0980-48-3140 for more information
Through Sept. 20: *Yamaai Studio, Indigo Fabrics exhibition* — Mitsukoshi Department Store fifth floor — 10:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. — free
Sept. 21-27: *Disney Animation Cells exhibition* — Mitsukoshi Department Store fifth floor — 10:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. — free
Sept. 28 through Oct. 4: *Lynn Gertenbach painting exhibition* — Mitsukoshi Department Store fifth floor — 10:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. daily

Sales

Through Sept. 20: *Second-hand Ki-mono bargain sale* — Mitsukoshi Department Store sixth floor — 10:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Festivals/Fairs

Through Sept. 19: *Russian Space Fair* — Gymnasium at 21st Century Park, Nago City — 9 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. every day — ¥1,500 for adults, ¥900 for 15 years and under — 0980-53-1212 for more information
Through Sept. 30: *Ethnic Curry Fair* — Sun Marina Hotel — 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. — Thai-style seafood curry, curry steak and more — ¥1,300 per person — 965-2222 for more information
Sept. 17-19: *Islands Fair* — Okinawa Convention Center — 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily — other islands specialty items, exhibitions, sales and traditional performances — 866-2045 for more information
Sept. 21-27: *Hokkaido Autumn Fair* — Mitsukoshi Department Store sixth floor — 10:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. — variety of food items, dairy products and more
Sept. 24: *Itoman Tug-of-War Festival* — Itoman Rotary Area — 5 p.m. — every welcome to participate — 992-4121 for more information
Sept. 26: *Port Festival in Awase* — Okinawa City Awase Fishing Port — 10 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. — Dragon Boat race, Eisa performance, live music, fireworks and more — 939-3711 for more information

Dining/Shows

Daily: *Ramada Renaissance Okinawa, Asian Pacific Brunch buffet* — Renaissance Hotel Sailfish Cafe, first floor — 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. — ¥1,900 per person, half price for children under 12
Daily: *Italian Pasta and Sweets lunch* — Renaissance Hotel Four Season, second floor — noon to 3:30 p.m. — ¥2,200 per person, half price for children under 12

Through Sept. 30: *Ramada Renaissance Okinawa, Hawaiian Night Asian buffet and dinner show* — Renaissance Hotel — shows every night at 6:30 and 8:30 p.m. except Tuesdays — ¥5,250 in advance, ¥6,006 at the door, half price for children under 12
Through Sept. 30: *The Night Away* — Busena Terrace Resort Hotel beachside deck — ¥11,000 — stylish dining then cruise every night — register by 6:30 p.m., barbecue dinner starts at 7 p.m., cruise at 7:30 p.m., light show at 10 p.m.
Through Sept. 30: *Monsoon Cafe Garden Restaurant* — Southeast Botanical Garden — open every day 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.
Sept. 17: *Laguna Garden Hotel dinner and jazz* — Kadena ITT — 7 p.m. to midnight — barbecue dinner and jazz — \$45 per person, includes entrance and first drink
Sept. 26: *Nikko Alivila 5th Anniversary Special Plan "Del Amer de Espano"* — Hotel Nikko Alivila — ¥9,000 for noon to 1 p.m. show with lunch from 1-2:30 p.m., ¥7,000 for 3-4 p.m. show with no meal served, and ¥12,000 for 7-8 p.m. show with dinner from 5:30-7 p.m. — meal choices are Japanese, American or Chinese

Dance/Music

Sept. 17: *Latin Music Charity concert* — Pallet Folk Theater — 7-9:30 p.m. — ¥1,500 — 862-9567 for more information
Sept. 18: *Yamaha Music School annual piano concert* — Pallet Folk Theater — 5:30-8:45 p.m. — free — 832-1313 for more information
Sept. 19: *Beethoven's 9th Symphony concert* — Gushikawa Civic Art Theater — 8 p.m. — ¥2,000 in advance, ¥2,500 at the door
Sept. 21: *Kariyushi Ryukyuan dance performance* — Prefectural Folk Theater — 8 p.m. — ¥2,000 in advance, ¥2,500 at the door
Sept. 25: *Ethiopian National Folk Music and Dance Troupe* — Okinawa Civic Hall — 7-9 p.m. — ¥3,800 in advance, ¥4,300 at the door — tickets available at Fukuhara and Teruya music stores — 860-3588 for more information
Sept. 28: *Kariyushi Ryukyuan dance performance* — Prefectural Folk Theater — 8 p.m. — ¥2,000 in advance, ¥2,500 at the door

Tours

Sept. 18: *Battle of Okinawa historical tour* — Kadena ITT — 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. — bring yen for lunch
Sept. 19: *Castle ruins exploration* — Kadena ITT — bring yen for lunch
Sept. 22: *Blue Indigo studio and Yamano-Sato antique store tour* — Kadena ITT — 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. — bring yen to dye your own indigo project and for lunch
Sept. 24: *Bath House* — Kadena ITT — 5:30-11:30 p.m. — enjoy herbal baths, whirlpools and saunas — approximately

¥2,000 for facials, ¥3,000 for a 45-minute massage
Sept. 24-26: *Tsuen Island camping trip* — Outdoor Recreation — sign up by Sept. 13 — tents, sleeping bags and assorted camping gear are supplied — \$125 per four-person family — 634-2841 for more information

International tours

Oct. 8-11: *Nagasaki* — Kadena ITT
Dec. 26 through Jan. 3: *The Millennium in Bali* — Kadena ITT

On-Base

Officers Club

Mondays
• *Flashback Retro 80* — Weekender Lounge — 8-10 p.m.
Tuesdays
• *All-You-Can-Eat Free Pizza* — Weekender Lounge — 5-7 p.m.
• *Classic rock DJ* — Weekender Lounge — 8-10 p.m.
Wednesdays
• *Variety music* — Weekender Lounge — 8-10 p.m.
Fridays
• *High Energy with Rob* — Weekender Lounge — 8 p.m. to 2 a.m.
Saturdays
• *DJ Dance* — 8 p.m. to 1 a.m.
Sept. 14: *Just 4 Laughs comedy showcase* — Dean Austin and Shayma Tash — Weekender Lounge — 8 p.m. — Officers Club members only — free
Sept. 22: *Kid's night* — Ballroom — 5-7 p.m. — meet Jazzy the Clown, enjoy movies, face painting available, lots of giveaways

Rocker NCO Club

Sundays
• *All that Jazz* — Lounge — 4-8 p.m.
• *Back in the Day* — Old school and soul music — Lounge — 8 p.m. to midnight
• *Sunday Brunch* — children under 5 eat free
Mondays
• *Country Music and Karaoke Sing-Along* — Lounge — 7 p.m. to midnight
• *Monday Family Night* — members receive 20 percent off evening meals when dining with their family
Tuesdays
• *Deja Vu Super 70's and 80's Variety and Classic Rock* — Lounge — 8 p.m. to midnight
• *Boss and Buddy Night* — after 4 p.m.
Wednesdays
• *Kid's Night* — Dining Room
• *Ladies' Night* — Lounge — 8 p.m. to midnight
Thursdays
• *Jazz Music* — Lounge — 5-8 p.m.
• *Rhythm and Blues* — Lounge — 8 p.m. to 1 a.m.
Fridays
• *Request Variety Top 40's* — Lounge —

5 p.m. to 2 a.m.
• *Super Social Hour* — Lounge — 5-6 p.m.
• *Rhythm and Blues* — Ballroom — 10:30 p.m. to 3 a.m.
Saturdays
• *Variety music* — Lounge — 8 p.m. to 2 a.m.
• *Rhythm and Blues* — Ballroom — 10:30 p.m. to 3 a.m.
Sept. 17: *All Night Dance Party* — Lounge — 5 p.m. to 3 a.m. — variety music
Sept. 17: *Tropical Wave All Night Dance Party* — Ballroom — 10:30 p.m. to 5 a.m. — Rhythm and Blues/Hip Hop dance music — prizes for the wildest Hawaiian shirt
Sept. 29: *Membership Appreciation Night* — Dining Room — 5-7 p.m. — complimentary steak or chicken buffet, vendor prizes, cash drawings, variety music — limited seating — no children please
Sept. 30: *A Taste of Italy* — gourmet food and wine dinner — 6 p.m. — Morrell Room — \$27 per guest — limited seating — limit two reservations per membership account

Banyan Tree Club

Sundays
• *80's and 90's variety music* — Lounge — 8 p.m. to close
• *All Night Toga Party* — 8 p.m. to 5 a.m. — games and prizes all night
• *Sizzlin' Sunday Stampede* — 2-6 p.m.
• *Sunday Steak Out* — Dining Room — 2-6 p.m.
Tuesdays
• *Football Frenzy* — 8 p.m. — Monday Night Football games — chances to win lots of prizes and trips
• *Absolute Alternative Music* — Lounge — 8 p.m. to close
Wednesdays
• *Ladies' Night* — Lounge — 8 p.m. to close
• *South Park Party* — Lounge — 10 p.m. — weekly contests with South Park giveaways
Thursdays
• *Country Music* — Lounge — 8 p.m. to close
Fridays
• *Listen to Retro Rock* — 70's and 80's music — Lounge — 5-8 p.m.
• *Freaky Friday Social Hour* — Lounge — 5-7 p.m.
• *Underground Vibe* — blend of house, techno and trance music — Lounge — 8 p.m. to close
• *Rhythm and Blues and Hip Hop music* — Ballroom — 9 p.m. to close
Saturdays
• *Rhythm and Blues blend* — Lounge — 8 p.m. to close
• *Request 90's variety music* — Ballroom — 9 p.m. to close
Sept. 16: *Just 4 Laughs comedy showcase* — Dean Austin and Shayma Tash — 8 p.m. — Rocker NCO Club and Banyan Tree Club members and their autho-

ized guests only — free
Sept. 23: *Membership Appreciation Night* — Dining Room — 5-7 p.m. — complimentary steak or chicken buffet — vendor prizes, cash drawings, variety music
Sept. 25: *Latin and Rhythm and Blues music mix* — Lounge — 8 p.m. to close — Ballroom — 9 p.m. to close — request variety

Dining

Thursdays: *Kid's night at Gater's* — save 50 percent on all orders from children's menu — for children 12 and under

Sales

Through Sept. 19: *Super Summer Sale* — Kadena Marina — 10-25 percent savings on selected items — 634-6036 for more information

Classes

Fridays: *Belly Dance* — Schilling Community Activities Center — 6-7 p.m.
Mondays: *Health First class* — Kadena Health and Wellness Center — 5 p.m. — receive a card for free over-the-counter medication for use at any military pharmacy islandwide and a free Health Wise Handbook on selfcare — to register call the HAWC the Friday prior to the class
Through Sept. 30: *Japanese Conversation* — Schilling Community Activities Center — Tuesdays and Thursdays — 7-8:30 p.m.
Sept. 18 and 25: *Money Management Course* — Schilling Community Activities Center — introduces military community members and their families to key concepts of wise money management
Sept. 20, 27 and Oct. 4: *Ballroom Dance* — Schilling Community Activities Center — 6-8 p.m. — both couples and singles welcome — learn to waltz, polka, jitterbug, swing, cha-cha and basic tango
Sept. 20, 27 and Oct. 4: *Guitar Group* — Schilling Community Activities Center — 6-7 p.m. — work on left-hand finger independence and right-hand pick control — learn the major cords, all notes on all strings in first position and how to play lead and rhythm guitar equally
Sept. 18: *Healthy Pregnancy, Healthy Baby* — Kadena American Red Cross — 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. — class limited to 10 couples — first-come, first-served basis
Sept. 19: *Healthy Pregnancy, Healthy Baby* — Kadena American Red Cross — 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. — class limited to 10 couples — first-come, first-served basis
Sept. 22: *Living on Less and Still Having Fun seminar* — Kadena Family Support Center — 1:30-3 p.m. — register by Sept. 19
Sept. 23: *On-line Investing Made Easy seminar* — Kadena Family Support Center — 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. — register by Sept. 21

MOVIES

Keystone 634-1869

Tonight: *"Mickey Blue Eyes,"* PG-13
Saturday: *"Wild Wild West,"* PG-13, and *"Mickey Blue Eyes,"* PG-13
Sunday: *"Wild Wild West,"* PG-13, and *"Mickey Blue Eyes,"* PG-13
Monday: *"New Blood,"* R
Tuesday: *"Ten Things I Hate About You,"* PG-13
Wednesday: *"Black Mask,"* R
Thursday: *"The Astronaut's Wife,"* R
Sept. 24: *"The Astronaut's Wife,"* R

Movie schedules are supplied by the Army and Air Force Exchange Service. Patrons should call the theater to verify movie titles, ratings, and running and start times.

Butler 645-3465

Tonight: *"The Astronaut's Wife,"* R
Saturday: *"Entrapment,"* PG-13, and *"The Astronaut's Wife,"* R
Sunday: *"Drop Dead Gorgeous,"* PG-13
Monday: *"Drop Dead Gorgeous,"* PG-13
Tuesday: *"South Park,"* R
Wednesday: *"South Park,"* R
Thursday: *"New Blood,"* R
Sept. 24: *"New Blood,"* R

VIDEO

New video release available each Tuesday at the base video stores. Because of shipping, release dates may vary.



"Doug's First Movie" "The Out of Towners"	Sept. 21	"My Favorite Martian"
	Sept. 28	"Invisible Mom 2" "The Lesser Evil" "The Naked Man"
"Desert Heat" "Rocky Marciano" "The Mummy" "Three Seasons"	Oct. 5 "Detour"	

Kadena Klassic draws teams from throughout Pacific

**By Senior Airman
Robert Parent
18th Services Squadron**

Softball teams from throughout the Pacific, both men and women, converged here Sept. 4 for Kadena's World Series of softball tournaments — the Kadena Klassic. Twenty-eight teams played game after game, sometimes until the wee hours of 1 a.m., until two exhausted teams were named winners — Misawa (men's bracket) and Pacific Forces (women's bracket).

Rain delayed the original tournament start date of Sept. 2, but the 18th Services Squadron fitness staff toiled from 3-11 a.m. and fixed the fields of mud.

The tournament started at noon with round-robin play. First-place finishers in each pool in the

men's bracket were Pacific Force, 4-0, Pool A; Kadena Falcons, 3-1, Pool B; Chrysler, 4-0, Pool C; and Misawa, 3-0, Pool D.

After the round robin, only 12 teams remained for the finals: The Spanish Dragons, 18th CES, Japan Telecom, New Car Sales, Coca-Cola, Ball Busters, TPS and AAFES, Pacific Force, Chrysler, Misawa Outlaws and the Kadena Falcons.

In the first round, the Spanish Dragons walked over 18th CES, 10-

2; New Car Sales won in a close slug-fest against Japan Telecom, 23-22; the Bull Busters prevailed over Coca-Cola, 2-7; and TPS shut out AAFES, 16-0.

Pacific Force then went on to make easy work of the Spanish Dragons, 22-12. Chrysler edged New Car Sales, 12-9; Misawa plowed over the Ball busters, 25-15; and TPPS beat the Kadena Falcons.

In the winners bracket, Misawa

continued its rampage and beat Chrysler, 20-13, which landed them in the number one position. Chrysler tried to regroup to take on the Kadena Falcons, but the Kadena team prevailed, 19-18.

In the championship matchup with Misawa and Kadena, the two worn-down teams faced off at 8:30 p.m. Sept. 3.

Misawa strung together a consistent series of bullet line drives that quieted the hometown fans and put the final nail in the coffin when they defeated the Falcons, 28-18.

In the women's bracket, Pacific Force, which had a combination of military members on Okinawa, went through the entire tournament undefeated.

The Scrubs, comprised predominantly of Kadena players, came in second.



BRIEFS

World Wrestling Alliance performs on Kadena

The World Wrestling Alliance/NWA Mid-Atlantic Championship Wrestling Association will perform free at Kadena's Falcon Fitness Center Oct. 6 and 7. Doors open at 6 p.m. for an autograph session, followed at 7 p.m. by approximately two hours of wrestling matches.

Scheduled to appear on the Pacific tour are: Legendary six-time NWA World Champs, Rock-N-Roll Express (Ricky Morton and Robert Gibson); Bunkhouse Buck, formerly of WCW; Sgt. Craig "Pitbull" Pitman, US Marine and Olympic wrestler; Strawberry, Ladies Professional Wrestling's Rookie of the Year; the NWA "Chair-Man" Madd Maxx; former NWA World Champs, The Border Patrol; International Tag Team stars, The Rising Sun; and many more stars of the NWA and WWA.

The owner of NWA Mid-Atlantic, David Baucom states, "I feel that it is a great honor for our promotion to have been selected to bring entertainment to our military people and their families. The small piece of America that we bring to them can do a world of good for their morale and well-being."

Flash photography and video taping is allowed for personal use. Call 634-1128 for more information.

Kadena conducts first triathlon

The first Kadena Triathlon is scheduled Oct. 23. It'll begin at 6 a.m. at the Kadena High School pool and end at Kinney Park.

Competitors will swim five laps, bike 25 kilometers and finish with a 10-kilometer run. The cost is \$25, or ¥3,500. Trophies, T-shirts and prizes will be awarded to overall winners. The competition is open to athletes islandwide. To register, or for more information, call the Risner Fitness Center at 634-4443.

Mr. 300 bowls here

Bob Learn Jr., known as Mr. 300 and one of the Professional Bowling Association Tour's best part-time players, will appear at the Kadena All Star Lanes from 5-10 p.m., Sept. 23. Learn will perform tricks during a free, adult bowling tournament scheduled from 7-10 p.m. Prizes will be awarded and participants can have their pictures taken with Learn.

Learn will also make a showing at the Skoshi Bowl during the After School Program from 3-5 p.m. that same day. Youth ages 9 to 18

AF takes silver at women's softball tournament

**By Heidi Gryzen
Air Armament Center Public Affairs**

EGLIN AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. (AFPN) — The Air Force's 7-2 record during the Armed Forces Women's Softball Tournament here Aug. 25 to 27 wasn't good enough to keep the Army from walking away with its 14th tournament win in 15 years.

The Army finished the tourney with an 8-1 record and a gold medal. The Navy wrapped the tournament up with a 2-7 record, and the Marines ended with a 1-8 record.

The service teams congregated at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla., to participate in the round-robin tournament. Throughout the tournament, each team played three games each day. The champion of the tournament was the team with the most wins.

The deciding game for the Army team took place the second day of the tournament when the undefeated Army went up against the Air Force, whose only loss was to their present competition.

Prior to the game, Steve Shaw, the coach for the Air Force Women's Softball team, expressed the significance of this game, stating if

the Army won, "they would wrap up the tournament."

And that is exactly what they did.

"This was the game it came down to and the game we had to win," said Army coach Jerry Corcoran, after snagging the win by five runs. "Our hitters executed well and we picked on their weaknesses. But our defensive game won it for us. We held a really good team to three runs."

Whether it was the triple, hit in the bottom of the fourth, that caused two runs batted in, or the three fly balls hit by Air Force that resulted in consecutive outs, the Army had reason to enjoy the game.

"All we have on our minds is the gold medal," said Karen Smith, an outfielder for the Army team. "We have a lot of talent on our team, but we need to stay focused."

The Air Force, however, regained its credibility when the team defeated the Army by one run in extra innings on the last day of the tourney. It was not, however, enough to steal the title from the Army.

Despite the Army's telltale record, the tournament symbolizes more than just winning.

can participate in the "Beat Bob Learn Competition." Free autographed pictures and trading cards will be available while supplies last. For more information, call Kadena All Star Lanes at 634-3806 or the Skoshi Bowl at 634-5532.

Golf tournament Sept. 27

A four-person, best-ball tournament begins with a shot-gun start at 7 a.m., Sept. 27, at the Banyan Tree Golf Course. Prizes will be awarded for first-, second-, third- and last-place finishers. Sign up by today.

For more information, call Capt Phillip Hardin, 634-2366; Capt. Bull Kirkendall, 634-1803; or Staff Sgt. Quentin Finley, 634-0011.

Youth bowling starts

The Okinawa Youth Bowling League begins Saturday at the Kadena All Star Lanes. Advanced registration is being held for youth ages 3 through 18 from 9-10:30 a.m. Individuals and teams are encouraged to join this league that runs until April 22. For more information, call 634-2290.

Tour De Okinawa Nov. 12-14

The 1999 Tour De Okinawa bicycle road race and bicycle road tour is being held Nov. 12, 13 and 14 in Nago. There are 13 categories, with entry fees ranging from ¥5,000 to ¥15,000. Application forms and a list of fees and categories are available at the Falcon Fitness Center. Applicants must pay in yen. Participants are asked to keep entry fees until a day before the race and copy all the application forms. Registration cards will be available Oct. 7 and are due at Nago City Hall one day before the race or tour starts. For more information, call 634-1128.

Fun Run planned Oct. 11

A Columbus Day 5/10-kilometer fun run starts at 8 a.m., Oct. 11, at the Kinser Sports Complex on Camp Kinser. The run is open to athletes islandwide. The preregistration fee is \$15 with a T-shirt, \$10 without a T-shirt. Sign-ups are being accepted until Oct. 5. Or, sign up the day of the race for \$20 with a T-shirt, \$15 without a T-shirt. Awards go to first through third-place finishers of each division. For more information, call 637-1114.